

Dirks

January 25, 1979

## Office of the White House Press Secretary

## NOTICE TO THE PRESS

President Carter today awarded the National Security Medal to Leslie C. Dirks, Deputy Director for Science and Technology of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The National Security Medal was established by President Truman in 1953 and is awarded for "distinguished achievement or outstanding contribution" in the field of intelligence relating to national security. The citation for the award to Dirks notes "his outstanding contribution in creating and directing a major intelligence program of great national importance." It further recognizes that the "leadership and creativity" displayed by Mr. Dirks resulted in "an extraordinary scientific accomplishment of extreme value to the Intelligence Community and to the nation."

Dirks, 42, attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in physics in 1958. He attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar and received a BSc in physics in 1960. He entered on duty with the CIA in 1961. He has served in a variety of assignments, and was named the Deputy Director for Science and Technology in June 1976.